

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. - 9. (Cancelled).

10. (New) An electronic appliance apparatus for detecting and processing motion, the apparatus comprising:

an acceleration sensor for continuously detecting acceleration in first, second, and third directions;

an acceleration vector detecting section for synthesizing the continuously detected acceleration into a plurality of acceleration vectors;

memory for storing sizes of the acceleration vectors, and associating each of the sizes with a time that the corresponding acceleration vector was detected by the acceleration sensor;

a first stability section for determining a first time of a first acceleration vector size that is less than a first predetermined value, and computing a first stability of the acceleration in a predetermined time frame before the first time;

a second stability section for searching the memory for a second time before the first time of a most recent second acceleration vector size that is greater than a second predetermined value, and computing a second stability of the acceleration in a predetermined time frame before the second time; and

a fall determining section for determining that the electronic appliance is falling if the first stability is within a first predetermined range and the second stability is within a second predetermined range.

11. (New) The apparatus of claim 10, further comprising:  
a recording medium;  
a transferor for reading or writing data to the recording medium; and  
a retractor for retracting the transferor from a position where it is located opposite to the recording medium when the fall determining section determines that the electronic appliance is falling.

12. (New) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:  
the recording medium is a hard disk provided in the electronic appliance; and  
the transferor is a magnetic head for reading or writing data to the hard disk.

13. (New) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the first predetermined value is equal to 0.

14. (New) A method for detecting a fall of an electronic device, the method comprising:  
continuously detecting acceleration in first, second, and third directions;  
synthesizing the continuously detected acceleration into a plurality of acceleration vectors;

storing sizes of the acceleration vectors, and associating each of the sizes with a time that the corresponding acceleration vector was detected;

determining a first time of a first acceleration vector size that is less than a first predetermined value, and computing a first stability of the acceleration in a predetermined time frame before the first time;

searching the memory for a second time before the first time of a most recent second acceleration vector size that is greater than a second predetermined value, and computing a second stability of the acceleration in a predetermined time frame before the second time; and

determining that the electronic appliance is falling if the first stability is within a first predetermined range and the second stability is within a second predetermined range.

15. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the first predetermined value is equal to 0.

16. (New) A content reproduction apparatus comprising:  
a reproduction head for reading data from a disk-shaped recording medium;  
buffer memory for temporarily buffering data read from the recording medium;  
a decoding section for decoding and outputting the data accumulated in the buffer memory;

an acceleration sensor for continuously detecting acceleration in first, second, and third directions;

an acceleration vector detecting section for synthesizing the continuously detected acceleration into a plurality of acceleration vectors;

memory for storing sizes of the acceleration vectors, and associating each of the sizes with a time that the corresponding acceleration vector was detected by the acceleration sensor;

a first stability section for determining a first time of a first acceleration vector size that is less than a first predetermined value, and computing a first stability of the acceleration in a predetermined time frame before the first time;

a second stability section for searching the memory for a second time before the first time of a most recent second acceleration vector size that is greater than a second predetermined value, and computing a second stability of the acceleration in a predetermined time frame before the second time;

a fall determining section for determining that the electronic appliance is falling if the first stability is within a first predetermined range and the second stability is within a second predetermined range; and

a retracting section for retracting the reproduction head from the disk-shaped recording medium when the fall determining section determines that the electronic appliance is falling.

17. (New) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein:

the reproduction head reads data from the recording medium and transfers the data to the buffer memory when an amount of data accumulated in the buffer memory does not exceed a predetermined amount; and

the fall determining section determines whether or not the electronic appliance is falling when the reproduction section is reading data.

18. (New) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the decoding section continues reading out data from the buffer memory and decoding the read out data when the fall determining section determines that the electronic appliance is falling.